

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1067–S1148*

**Measures Introduced:** Sixteen bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 308–323, S. Res. 43–46, and S. Con. Res. 10–11. **Pages S1115–16**

**Measures Passed:**

***Congratulating James Madison University Football Team:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 45, commending the James Madison University Dukes football team for winning the 2004 NCAA Division I-AA National Football Championship.

**Pages S1143–44**

***Honoring Zurab Zhvania:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 46, commemorating the life of the late Zurab Zhvania, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Georgia.

**Page S1144**

**Class Action Fairness Act—Agreement:** Senate continued consideration of S. 5, to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1076–S1110**

Durbin (Modified) Amendment No. 3, to preserve State court procedures for handling mass actions.

**Page S1110**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 9, 2005, and that Senator Pryor be recognized to offer an amendment.

**Page S1144**

**Appointments:**

***The National Council of the Arts:*** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105–83, announced the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of The National Council of the Arts:

Senators DeWine and Bennett. **Page S1143**

***President's Export Council:*** The Chair, pursuant to Executive Order No. 12131, reappointed the following Member to the President's Export Council:

Senator Enzi. **Page S1143**

***Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:*** The Chair, on behalf of the President of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 85–874, as amended, appointed Senator Cochran to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, vice Senator Stevens.

**Page S1143**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Brigadier General William T. Grisoli, United States Army, to be a Member of the Mississippi River Commission.

22 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

**Pages S1145–48**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1114–15**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1116–17**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S1117–42**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1113–14**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Page S1142**

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:** **Page S1142**

**Authority for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1142**

**Privilege of the Floor:** **Pages S1142–43**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 6:32 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 9, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S1144–45.)

### Committee Meetings

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

#### CREDIT RATING AGENCIES

***Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:*** Committee concluded a hearing to examine the role of credit rating agencies in capital markets, after receiving testimony from Kathleen A. Corbet, Standard and Poor's, The McGraw-Hill, Companies, Inc.,

Stephen W. Joynt, Fitch Ratings, and Raymond W. McDaniel, Jr., Moody's Investors Services, Inc., all of New York, New York; Yasuhiro Harada, Rating and Investment Information, Inc., Tokyo, Japan; Sean J. Egan, Egan-Jones Ratings Company, Haverford, Pennsylvania; Micah S. Green, The Bond Market Association, Washington, D.C.; and James A. Kaitz, Association for Financial Professionals, Bethesda, Maryland.

## 2006 BUDGET

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee held a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget for fiscal year 2006, receiving testimony from David M. Walker, Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office.

## SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests concluded a hearing to examine the implementation of Titles I through III of P.L. 106-393, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, after receiving testimony from Mark Rey, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and the Environment; Ed Shepard, Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; James B. French, Trinity County Office of Education, Weaverville, California; Timothy Creal, Custer School District, Custer, South Dakota; Reta Grif-fith, Pocahontas County, Marlinton, West Virginia, on behalf of County Commissioners' Association of West Virginia, and Sherry Krulitz, Shoshone County, Wallace, Idaho, on behalf of the Idaho Association of Counties, both on behalf of the National As-

sociation of Counties; and Tim Lillebo, Oregon Natural Resources Council, Bend, Oregon.

## BUDGET REVENUE PROPOSALS

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine revenue proposals in the President's proposed budget for fiscal year 2006, after receiving testimony from John W. Snow, Secretary of the Treasury.

## NIH BIODEFENSE RESEARCH PROGRAM

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Subcommittee on Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness concluded a hearing to examine the biodefense research program of the National Institutes of Health, focusing on the development of medical countermeasures against a bioterrorist attack, after receiving testimony from Anthony S. Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services; Penrose C. Albright, Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Science and Technology; Gerald L. Epstein, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, D.C.; Gordon Cameron, Acambis, PLC, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Jon S. Abramson, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and George Painter, Chimerix, Inc., La Jolla, California.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Rules and Administration:* Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee.

Also, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 109th Congress.

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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Measures Introduced:** 63 public bills, H.R. 609-670, 676; 7 private bills, H.R. 671-675, 677, 678; and; 9 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 46-49, and H. Res. 68-72 were introduced.

**Pages H409-12**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H412-14**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 71, resolution providing for consideration of H.R. 418, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terror-

ists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, and to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego Border fence (H. Rep. 109-3).

**Page H409**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Supporting the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month:* H. Res. 46, supporting the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 414 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 20;

**Pages H357-60, H367**